AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3 as follows:

--This application is a Continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/727,876, filed on December 1, 2000. This application claims benefit of Japanese Applications No. H11-343691 filed in Japan on December 2, 1999 and No. H11-368189 filed on December 24, 1999, the contents of which are incorporated by this reference.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

--Fig. 4A is a diagram illustrating the manner in which preset power values vary with the temporal variations of a high frequency power supply.

Fig. 4B is a diagram illustrating the manner in which electric current values vary with the temporal variations of a high frequency power supply.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

--Fig. 11A is a diagram illustrating a specific example of the manner in which the set value of electric power varies with time when a high frequency current is allowed to flow.

Fig. 11B is a diagram illustrating a specific example of the manner in which the impedance varies with time when a high frequency current is allowed to flow.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--If the rate of change $|\Delta I|$ is less than the prescribed value (or threshold value), the procedure involved in evaluating the rate of change is terminated, and the operation proceeds to step S5 in Fig. 3. Conversely, if $|\Delta I|$ is not less than the prescribed value (threshold value), the

procedures involved in steps S22 to S25 are repeated until the rate of change $|\Delta I|$ falls below the prescribed value (or threshold value), and the operation does not proceed to step S5.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the example shown in Fig. 4(B), current I reaches the maximum value of Imax of electric current x 90% at time ~~T1~~ T2 and then decreases. Because current I is less than maximum value Imax x 90% at time T2, the operation proceeds to a step for determining whether current I_{max} (maximum value Imax of electric current) is less than 0.7 A in step S6 at time T2.--

Please add the following new paragraph on page 19, line 25 as follows:

--Therefore, it is possible for the control circuit 17 to recognize the maximum value among values of the current I received a plurality of times at regular sampling intervals as I_{max}.--

Please add the following new paragraph on page 31, line 4 as follows:

--In other words, impedance values are repeatedly calculated at regular sampling intervals, and it is possible for the control circuit 17 to recognize Z_{min} among the impedance values calculated a plurality of times at regular sampling intervals.--

Please add the following new paragraph on page 38, line 18 as follows:

--Like the first embodiment, it is possible to recognize I_{max} among values of the current I measured repeatedly at regular sampling intervals.--

Please add the following new paragraph on page 45, line 9 as follows:

--Like the second embodiment, it is possible to recognize Z_{min} among the impedance values Z sampled at regular sampling intervals.--

Please delete the Abstract and insert the following new Abstract.

--An electric operation apparatus including: a high frequency current generating circuit for feeding a high frequency current to electrodes; a direct power supply circuit for supplying variable electric power to the high frequency current generating circuit; a therapeutic condition monitoring circuit for monitoring a therapeutic condition brought about by the high frequency current on the basis of the high frequency current outputted by the high frequency electric current generating circuit; and a supplied power setting circuit for supplying a setting signal for supplied electric power to the power supply circuit on the basis of the monitoring results obtained by the therapeutic condition monitoring circuit.--